

REMARKS

There remains pending in this application claims 8-11, of which claim 8 is the sole independent claim. No claims have been added or cancelled.

As the Examiner will appreciate, claim 8 has been amended primarily to add the elements of a driving unit which separates the pair of reverse-discharge rollers from each other. Such a driving unit is featured in the specification at least as the solenoid described on page 10, lines 20-25. In this regard, claim 8 has been further amended so as to clarify that the pair of reverse-discharge rollers are capable of being separated from each other and that the driving unit performs that separation function after the original document is fed to the conveying roller by the switchback.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claim 8 now clarifies and more clearly recites how the pair of reverse-discharge rollers separate from each other. Withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as applied to claim 8, is respectfully sought.

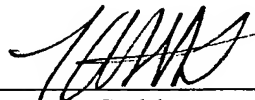
Claim 11 was also rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite on grounds that it was not understood how the function of the rollers to start rotating as recited at a time when the rear end of the original document switchback leaves the pair of rollers. Without necessarily agreeing with that objection, Applicants have rewritten claim 11 to eliminate the objected to phraseology to now more clearly recite that the pair of reverse-discharging rollers contacts with each other by the driving unit at a time that rear end of the original document switchback leaves the pair of discharging reverse rollers. The control process as now recited in claim 11 is featured in the

specification at least at page 10, line 21 through page 12, line 15, where the drive control for the reverse-discharge roller is described. Applicants respectfully submit that claim 11 as now phrased meets all of the requirements of section 112, second paragraph, and that the rejection should now be withdrawn.

Applicants respectfully submit that this application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and early passage to issue are respectfully sought.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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